were technologically successes. Their failures on the economic front were however because of the need to keep prices at the lowest possible level. The pricing adopted consciously fixed the prices of BCCL at less than the economic prices,. The Govt. have recently de-regulated the prices of coking coal which is the major product of BCCL in order to enacle the company to realise the true value of coal. On the second specific point relating to the female workforce in BCCL, they are mainly deployed in sidings and manual quarries. With the increase of mechanisation in order to enable faster despatches, manual workers are being rendered surplus. Loading by Pay Loaders is a necessary consequence of rail movement rationalisation also. Efforts are under way to deploy these workers to the extent possible.

(c) CIL conducts annual pithead stock measurement in respect of each mine of every subsidiary. The details of shortfall in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are 0.99 million tonnes (MTs), 2.81 MTs and 0.28 MTs respectively. Where shortages in stocks are exceeding the permissible limit of measurement error of 5% with respect to book stock in pitheads, they are reported and investigated into. The existence of shortages do contribute to the loss incurred by BCCL.

(d) and (e) Disciplinary action has been initiated in 51 cases for stock shortages in BCCL.

Production of coal in Bihar

2378. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of coal in Bihar, during the last three years;

(b) whether any project has been taken up to minimise the contents of sulphur in coal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The total production of coal in Bihar during the last three years is as under:—

Year	(million tonnes)
1993-94	72.27
1994-95	72.41
1995-96	74.53

(b)and (c) The sulphur content in the coal prodced from the mines in Bihar is generally low and therefore, there is no proposal to set up any plant for reduction of sulphur in coal in the State of Bihar.

Approval for Transportation Charges in Levy Sugar Price Equalisation fund Accounts

2379. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action to approve the transportation charges (including transportation of retailers) as approved by the Gujarat Government in levy sugar price equalisation fund accounts;

(b) whether Government propose to allow state Government to claim octroi and insurance charges under levy sugar price equalisation fund as per earlier guidelines of the Central Government dated the 28th October, 1972; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Directions on the methodology of settlement of claims and clarifications on the guidelines for payments of transportation charges have been made by the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Leavy sugar is sold through the Public Distribution System at lower than the market price so that it may remain affordable. the issue price of the sugar sold under PDS is the same throughout the country. To avoid distortions in this price structure, levy of local taxes and duties is discouraged and for this reason the Government has not agreed to reimbursement of octroi while fixing the margins admissible to this state nominees.

कोयला उत्पादक कम्पनियों को हुए लाभ और हानि

2380. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1993-94,. 1994-95 और 1995-96 के दौरान देश में कोयला उत्पादक कम्पनियों में से प्रत्येक द्वारा कितना लाभ अर्जित किया गया अथवा कितनी हानि उठाई गई;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) आज की तारीख के अनुसार कम्पनी-वार कितने उप-उत्पादक संयंत्र कार्यरत हैं, और

(घ) इन संयंत्रों के विस्तार तथा नए एककों की स्थापना करने संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

कोयला मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कान्ति सिंह) (क) और (ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कोल इंडिया लि० की सहायक कंपनी कोल इंडिया लि० (को० ई० लि०) के सीधे नियंत्रणाधीन नार्थ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्डस लि० तथा सिंगरेनी कोलियारीज़ कंपनी लि० (सि० को० कं० लि०) द्वारा अर्जित लाभ/उठाई गई हानि(-) की स्थिति नीचे दर्शायी गई है:—

(करोड़ रु० में)

कंपनी	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	2	3	4
ई० को० लि०	-70.40	-108.47	154.67
भा० को० को० लि०	21.56	-154.63	102.26
से० को० लि०	62.06	-118.96	-1.43
मा० को० लि०	225.23	190.00	179.47
वे० को० लि०	31.59	71.57	98.59
सा० ई० को० लि०	139.84	91.70	76.96
म० को० लि०	21.27	68.01	24.75
के० खा० आ० डि० सं० लि०	2.64	2.77	3.37
ना० ई० को०	33.47	-13.14	-27.20
जोड़ को० ई० लि०	400.32	29.473	611.44
सि० को० कं० लि०	16.26	24.99	-190.80